

COLORED FARMERS' MEET.

Sensible Resolutions Adopted by the Negro Soil Tillers of Mecklenburg County.

The colored farmers of Mecklenburg County held their fourth annual conference at Biddle University last week. The attendance was good, but not quite as full as in other years. Interest was well sustained throughout. There was a small but select exhibit of farm and garden products.

The following topics were discussed:

1. "How to buy a farm and build a home."
2. "How the farmer can most profitably spend his time when not engaged in working his crop."
3. "Caring for stock and farming implements."
4. "Economical ways of harvesting and marketing crops."

The officers for the ensuing year are: J. F. Lyttles, president; Junius Fox, secretary; George Carson, treasurer.

The following paper was adopted as the expression of the conference:

"We, colored farmers of Mecklenburg County, in conference assembled, submit the following expression of our views to our fellow-farmers and the interested public:

"1. We note with pleasure, as we have good grounds for believing, the increasing harmonious feeling between the races in our county, and we are persuaded that the better classes are seeing more clearly, as times goes on, the value of co-operation in those things which are mutually beneficial. The number of law-abiding and industrious colored people in our community is proportioned by the character of the white people of that community. Associated as the races are in a community of certain interests, it is only natural that the weaker should be more or less influenced and controlled by the stronger, whether we will it or not. This fact finds its illustration in those varying degrees of order on the one hand and lawlessness on the other, which are manifest in different parts of the land. We congratulate our whole people on our freedom from anything approaching those frightful crimes and mob outbreaks occurring in other sections. To maintain and improve upon present conditions, we urge each to strive in all ways possible, to frown upon crime and injustice and study only things which make for peace.

"2. We note that the educational facilities for our children are far from what they ought to be. Ill-prepared teachers, short terms and poor school-houses, and many of these without proper furnishings, are the principal hindrances. We hail with hopefulness every step taken to improve these, but at the same time are keenly sensible of the fact that without early and extended improvement, in the respects indicated, the educational progress will continue to be dangerously slow. As little as may be thought of it, poor school facilities are exerting a

damaging influence upon the negro population in the way of driving many of them into or near the towns, where better educational advantages are to be found. There are two parties concerned in this business and in the interest of the common good, more should be done to improve the schools.

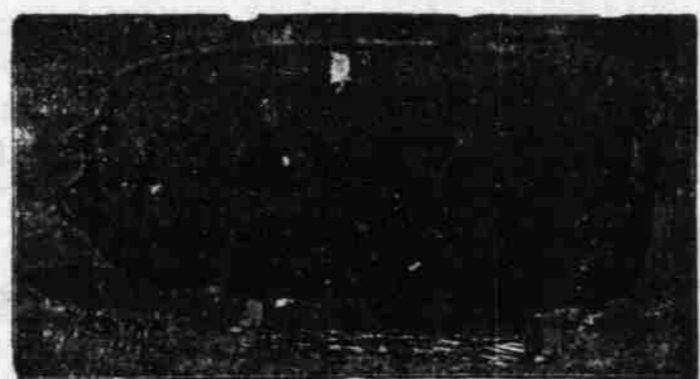
"3. We learn with special interest that, in our section and county, many of the landlords are improving the surroundings of the tenants—furnishing houses of several rooms, a garden plot and other facilities. A landlord who makes such provisions and deals justly, never wants for plenty of good tenants. A landlord who dumps a family of eight or ten in a one-room cabin, and insists on planting cotton within ten feet of it all all around, never has good tenants. We trust that the improvements thus begun will extend. Both the landlord and the tenant will be mutually advanced in their interests.

"4. We advise our people, whether laborers or tenants, to consider at all times the interest of their landlords or employers. The more carefully the laborer or tenant looks after the interest of the employer or landlord, the more he conserves his own interests.

"5. We again lift a warning voice against certain forms of extravagance prevailing among our young people. Such, for example, as hiring horses and buggies at extravagant prices and riving over the country just for the appearance of the thing. It is worse than ridiculous for one to expend on a Sabbath the earnings of a previous week, in driving round in a hired vehicle. One who does this will never own such an outfit.

"6. We urge that parents exercise greater care over their children. Seek to bring and keep them under the best possible influences. The recruits for the chain-gang are coming too largely from the ranks of the young. Children should not be allowed to stray about in idleness. Bad results are sure to follow.

"7. The laudable efforts to buy farms and houses should be persisted in. Every effort in this direction strengthens the people. To secure a home of his own, makes a man more self-respecting, and by it he commands the greater respect of others."



POLAND CHINAS. A superior lot of pigs by my fine Boars, "Gray's Big Chief" 57077 and "Victor G" 57075. The two best strains of living hogs represented in this herd—Sows in pigs, and young Boars and Sows of all ages. Send to headquarters and get the best, from the oldest and largest herd of Poland Chinas in this State at one-half Western prices. Address, J. B. GRAY, Fredericksburg, Va.

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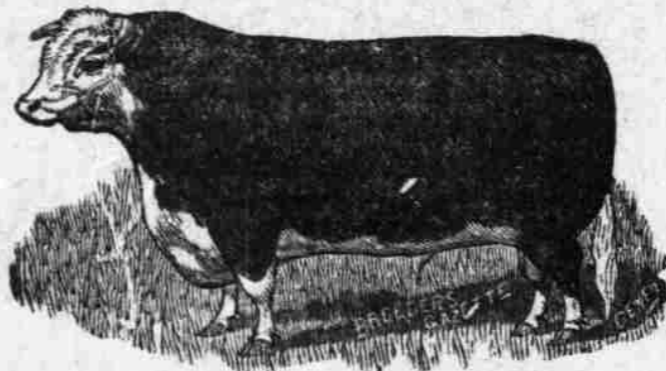
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50 Choice Berkshire Pigs

From registered stock. Can give pairs no akin; price from \$10 to \$20 per pair. Ready for shipment August 15th.

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Herefords and Shropshires Next Two Weeks.



For the next two weeks I will offer the following stock at prices that the Southern farmers cannot afford to let pass. One registered Bull Calf, nine months old, good enough to head any herd in the South, for \$100. Three-fourth blood Calves, extra quality, from five to ten months old, \$25 each. Two yearling Shropshire Rams, will weigh about 200 each, for \$20 each. Lambs all sold. No cut on above prices. If you want any of the above stock, write at once. This ad. will only appear once more.

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FIRST PREMIUM STOCK.

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References: Farmers & Merchants National Bank, Winchester, Va.

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Several fine family Milch Cows, fresh, young and gentle; and one fine Bull Calf, out of Shorthorn cow, by registered Angus Bull.

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Fine Buck Lambs, out of Shropshire ewes, by a registered Dorset Buck at \$6.00 each. Thoroughbred Laced Wyandotte Cockerels and Pullets at \$1.00 each.

W. M. WATKINS & SONS,
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A Few Fine Poland China Pigs

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Jerseys and Berkshires.

Thirty Daughters by Biltmores Torment, No. 60761, from four to sixteen months old, that will be bred to Sultan of Biltmore, No. 66,300; also several nice bull calves from good dams; one bull sixteen months old, ready for service, from May Vena, No. 176,748. Private test: 18 lbs. and 15 ounces in seven days when this calf was six months old, and she was two months in calf. Record for herd for 1903: 402 pounds of butter, including ten heifers with first calf. Write for what you want; or better, come and see.

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Standard Poultry.—The Great Utility Breeds a Specialty. Barred and White Plymouth Rocks, White and Golden Wyandottes, White and Brown Leghorns, Bronze and White Holland Turkeys, Pekin Ducks and Toulouse Geese. Note.—We have had more orders than we could fill for eggs, and can now only book orders for fall birds, for show or breeding.

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